Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W

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P 011627Z JUN 78 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0318 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW USMISSION USNATO

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 08362

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: MINISTER PEREZ'S STATEMENT OF JUNE 1, 1978
- (SALT TWO-1769)

1. BEGIN TEXT:

MR. MINISTER:

- I

TODAY I WILL RETURN TO THE SUBJECT OF NEW TYPES OF ICBMS. SINCE SEPTEMBER 1977 BOTH SIDES HAVE DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO THIS SUBJECT. THE UNITED STATES HAS CAREFULLY ANALYZED THE PROPOSALS CURRENTLY ON THE TABLE IN ORDER TO SEEK RESOLUTION OF THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES. TODAY I SHALL SUMMARIZE THESE ISSUES AND, IN THIS CONNECTION, MAKE AN ADDITIONAL PROPOSAL DEALING WITH ONE ASPECT OF THE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE EXEMPTION OF ONE NEW TYPE OF ICBM FOR EACH SIDE SECRET

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FOR THE TERM OF THE TREATY.

II

AT THE APRIL 26 PLENARY, THE UNITED STATES TABLED A REVISED PROPOSAL ON NEW TYPES OF ICBMS, TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROTOCOL. THIS PROPOSAL MAKES NO PROVISION FOR EX-

EMPTING ONE NEW TYPE OF ICBM FOR EACH SIDE. TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE SOVIET SIDE IN FAVOR OF SUCH AN EXEMPTION, THE UNITED STATES MADE AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL ON MAY 10 WHICH WOULD PERMIT EACH SIDE ONE EXEMPTION TO THE PROHIBITION ON NEW TYPES OF ICBMS FOR THE TERM OF THE TREATY. THE NEW TYPE OF ICBM PERMITTED TO EACH SIDE WOULD BE A LIGHT ICBM, WHICH COULD BE EITHER MIRVED OR NON-MIRVED.

ON MAY 12 THE SOVIET DELEGATION, REFERRING TO THE APRIL 26 PROPOSAL OF THE UNITED STATES, SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL WHICH BROUGHT THE SIDES SOMEWHAT CLOSER TO AGREEMENT ON THE DEFINITION OF NEW TYPES OF ICBMS. HOWEVER, THE BASIC SOVIET PROPOSAL TO EXEMPT ONE NEW TYPE OF ICBM EQUIPPED WITH A SINGLE REENTRY VEHICLE FOR THE TERM OF THE PROTOCOL REMAINED UNCHANGED.

THE UNITED STATES TODAY REAFFIRMS ITS POSITION THAT, IN THE CONTEXT OF A PROHIBITION ON THE FLIGHT-TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEW TYPES OF ICBMS FOR THE TERM OF THE PROTOCOL, THERE CAN BE NO EXEMPTION FOR THE FLIGHT-TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF ONE NEW TYPE OF ICBM. HOWEVER, AS AN ALTERNATIVE, IF THE PROHIBITION ON FLIGHT-TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEW TYPES OF ICBMS WERE TO BE IN THE TREATY, EACH SIDE WOULD BE PERMITTED ONE EXEMPTION FOR A LIGHT ICBM, WHICH COULD BE EITHER MIRVED OR NON-MIRVED. THESE SECRET

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ARE TWO SEPARATE ALTERNATIVES, EITHER OF WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE UNITED STATES.

III

IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEFINITION OF NEW TYPES OF ICBMS, THE UNITED STATES HAS PROPOSED THAT NEW TYPES OF ICBMS INCLUDE ALL TYPES OF ICBMS NOT FLIGHT-TESTED AS OF APRIL 15, 1978. THE SOVIET DELEGATION HAS PROPOSED THAT NEW TYPES OF ICBMS INCLUDE ALL TYPES OF ICBMS, THE FLIGHT TESTS OF WHICH WERE INITIATED AFTER JANUARY 1, 1977.

WITH RESPECT TO THE CRITERIA TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DEFINITION OF NEW TYPES OF ICBMS, THE SIDES ARE IN AGREEMENT ON THE FOLLOWING: THE NUMBER OF STAGES, THE LENGTH, THE LARGEST DIAMETER, THE LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THE THROW-WEIGHT, OF THE MISSILE; AND THE TYPE OF PROPELLANT (THAT IS, LIQUID OR SOLID) OF ANY OF ITS STAGES. HOWEVER, THE SIDES ARE NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO INCLUDING THE CRITERIA OF TOTAL IMPULSE AND INITIAL WEIGHT OF ANY OF THE STAGES OF THE MISSILE OR WITH RESPECT TO THE CRITERIA ASSOCIATED WITH WHAT THE UNITED STATES CALLS "POST-BOOST

VEHICLES." NOR IS THERE AGREEMENT ON THE UNITED STATES PROPOSALS FOR RESTRICTIONS ON THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF REENTRY VEHICLES WITH WHICH ICBMS OF EACH EXISTING TYPE COULD BE EQUIPPED, OR FOR ALLOWING FLIGHT-TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF ICBMS EQUIPPED WITH NUMBERS OF REENTRY VEHICLES OR PENETRATION AIDS LESS THAN THE MAXIMUM NUMBERS OF REENTRY VEHICLES AND PENETRATION AIDS WHICH HAD BEEN FLIGHT-TESTED ON AN ICBM OF THAT TYPE AS OF APRIL 15, 1978.

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IV

ICBMS, WITH THEIR LARGE DESTRUCTIVE POTENTIAL, HIGH STATE OF READINESS, AND SHORT FLIGHT TIME, COMBINED WITH THE GENERAL ABSENCE OF EFFECTIVE ACTIVE DEFENSES, CONSTITUTE THE MOST DESTABILIZING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS. AS SUCH, THESE WEAPONS DEMAND THE MOST CAREFUL ATTENTION. THEREFORE, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL OF THE UNITED STATES TO PERMIT AN EXEMPTION FOR ONE NEW TYPE OF LIGHT ICBM FOR EACH SIDE FOR THE TERM OF THE TREATY, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT ANY SUCH EXEMPTED ICBM NOT BE FLIGHT-TESTED OR DEPLOYED WITH A NUMBER OF REENTRY VEHICLES GREATER THAN THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF REENTRY VEHICLES FLIGHT-TESTED OR DEPLOYED ON AN ICBM BY EITHER SIDE AS OF APRIL15, 1978. ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES A SECOND AGREED STATEMENT TO PARAGRAPH 9 OF ARTICLE IV OF THE TREATY:

SECOND AGREED STATEMENT TO PARAGRAPH 9 OF ARTICLE IV OF THE

TREATY

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THE PARTIES AGREE THAT, IN CONNECTION WITH THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 9 OF ARTICLE IV, THE ONE NEW TYPE OF LIGHT ICBM PERMITTED TO EACH PARTY SHALL NOT BE FLIGHT-TESTED OR DEPLOYED WITH A NUMBER OF REENTRY VEHICLES GREATER THAN THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF REENTRY VEHICLES FLIGHT-TESTED OR DEPLOYED ON AN ICBM BY EITHER PARTY AS OF APRIL 15, 1978.

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MR. MINISTER, THE NEW PROPOSAL I HAVE MADE TODAY, WHICH TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE SOVIET DELEGATION, TAKEN TOGETHER WITH THE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES ON MAY 10, PROVIDES AN ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE. END TEXT. PEREZ

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